

Minutes: Leesburg Tree Commission August 19, 2002

The Leesburg Tree Commission met on Monday, August 19, 2002 at 7:30 p.m. in the lower level meeting room at 25 West Market Street, Leesburg, VA. Staff present for the meeting was Jay Banks.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Chairperson Wolf
Commissioner Hower
Commissioner Bessa
Commissioner Perry
Commissioner Peterson
Commissioner Pritchard
Commissioner Goolsby

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Pritchard made a motion to approve the minutes of July 15, 2002 with minor changes.

Motion: Pritchard
Second: Goolsby
Carried: 5-0-2

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Carol Evans area forester with the Virginia Department of Forestry attended the meeting for support and did not have any comments.

OLD AND NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner Peterson reviewed the federal urban forestry funds.

Commissioner Wolf discussed his letter to the town manager requesting an Urban Forester intern for next year.

Mr. Banks stated that a response was being prepared.

Commissioner Pritchard asked if it would be possible to get matching grant money?

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Mr. Banks stated that getting the grant should not be difficult, but what would be a challenge is a need to have a specific goal or project for the intern.

Commissioner Pritchard talked about a project Historic Trees Curriculum and wanted to know if Commissioner Perry would be interested.

Commissioner Perry was very interested in doing this project, and also talked about Plant A Tree For Me project.

Commissioner Bessa asked about the survey that was in the packet.

Mr. Banks stated that it was just a piece of information that he thought might be of some interest to the Commission as to how urban forestry is situated in other municipalities.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS:

Commissioner Hower remarked that the a consulting firm was working with various merchants downtown to get input on appearances and enhancements. He wanted to know if this was a report that was going to come back to various Commissions?

Mr. Banks said they were building a business strategy for downtown.

Commissioner Pritchard stated that she saw a few trees still standing on the site of the Leesburg Plaza office building. She wanted to know if the construction people honored the save tree signs?

Mr. Banks stated some trees were saved but most are cleared out, the buffer yard was made wider and new plant material will be put in there.

Commissioner Wolf stated that Spence Jones wanted to invite everyone to the Eagle Scout ceremony on September 7th from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at Harmony United Methodist Church in Hamilton.

Commissioner Peterson talked about the Building With Trees project and that he would like this project to continue.

STAFF COMMENTS:

Mr. Banks talked about getting the Commission copies of the Zoning Ordinance.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Goolsby made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Goolsby
Second: Peterson
Carried: 7-0

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There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Jay S. Banks, Urban Forester